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The House Policy Committee

Christopher Cox, Chairman

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Policy Committee Reviews Clinton-Gore North Korea Aid

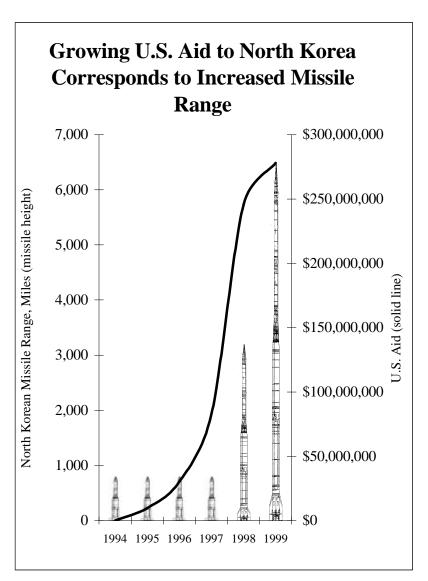
Evidence Shows False Premise for Appeasement

WASHINGTON (Tuesday, April 11, 2000)—The House Policy Committee will examine ways to put an end to the Clinton-Gore aid to Kim Jong II's Stalinist North

Korean dictatorship. That aid is being used to feed Kim Jong Il's million-man army, to provide fuel oil for North Korean military industries, and to build light water nuclear reactors that will provide plutonium for nuclear weapons.

Two top nuclear scientists will discuss the dangers posed by Clinton-Gore financed light water nuclear reactors during a briefing at the Committee's weekly executive session at noon, Wednesday, April 12 in the Capitol.

The U.S.-supplied light water reactors will produce plutonium sufficient to arm 65 nuclear warheads each year. These warheads



would pose an increased threat because they could be mounted on long-range North Korean ICBMs developed while the Clinton-Gore administration gave foreign aid to North Korea.

The two nuclear scientists who will brief the Policy Committee, Dr. William R. Graham and Dr. Victor Gilinsky, are expected to tell the House Leaders that while the facilities North Korea was building on its own would have produced enough nuclear weapons-grade material for about a dozen bombs a year, the plutonium produced by the new light water nuclear reactors U.S. taxpayers are financing can be reprocessed to arm 65 bombs a year—more than five times as many.

"Of course, the politically correct Clinton-Gore administration would never finance the construction of nuclear power plants for taxpayers in the United States," said House Policy Chairman Christopher Cox. "If North Korea needs electricity, and if U.S. taxpayers must pay for it (a dubious proposition in all events), then a decision could have been made to supply hydroelectric power or any other means of generation that does not increase security risks. Yet when Vice Foreign Minister Kang Suk-Ju proposed on July 15, 1993 that America subsidize North Korea's light water nuclear reactors, the Clinton-Gore administration said yes. American taxpayers have been paying for these nuclear time bombs ever since."

Background

Until the Clinton-Gore administration, U.S. policy stood firm against the self-appointed Communist gods Kim Il-Sung and his son, Kim Jong Il. To the very last day of the Bush administration, North Korea received no U.S. aid, subsidies, or trade. Thus, Clinton's initiation of U.S. taxpayer subsidies for North Korea, and his plan to completely normalize relations with this bizarre and dangerous Communist country, is a radical break with longstanding American policy.

Today, even as North Korea poses one of the greatest threats to American and allied interests anywhere around the globe, the Clinton-Gore administration has made Kim Jong II's dictatorship the largest recipient of U.S. foreign aid in the Asia-Pacific region. This astonishing policy reversal has made taxpayers in the United States one of the principal financiers of the Stalinist regime's survival.

North Korea is not simply a dictatorship: it is a uniquely monstrous tyranny that has tormented the Korean people for half a century, that continues to starve men, women, and children through man-made famine, and that has created the most completely totalitarian and militarized state in human history. Nor is it merely a theoretical threat to America. Kim Jong II's million-man army, which considers itself formally at war with the United States, is building long-range missiles that will enable it to subject American territory to nuclear, biological, and chemical blackmail.

In 1998, without warning, North Korea fired a nuclear-capable ballistic missile 850 miles directly over Japan. This surprise missile launch recklessly jeopardized the safety of the people of Japan. As a result of this stunning action, the world was

alerted to a long-range missile capability that few people before then believed North Korea possessed. Since then, Japan—also with U.S. taxpayer support—has been scrambling to deploy a missile defense to protect its citizens and 40,000 American troops from the rapidly escalating North Korean threat.

On December 8, 1998, after four years of Clinton-Gore directed U.S. foreign aid, North Korean Defense Ministry officials rewarded American taxpayers by publicly announcing they were "ready to annihilate U.S. imperialists," and said they would "plunge the damned U.S. territory into a sea of flame." (This amazing threat is at http://policy.house.gov/nk/threattext.htm.)

North Korea is a virulent proliferator of dangerous weapons: it has sold crucial technology to Iran for the Shahab missile that now threatens U.S. forces across the Middle East, and to Pakistan for the Ghauri missile that in 1998 disrupted the fragile stability of South Asia. Tellingly, North Korea's missile proliferation has dramatically accelerated since the Clinton-Gore administration began giving the regime U.S. taxpayer support in 1994. There were *no* known No-dong missile sales abroad until *after* the United States signed the so-called Agreed Framework with North Korea.

When American negotiators first sought to restrain North Korea from new missile sales, North Korea boldly used the opportunity to demand \$1 billion annually. Worse yet, the Clinton-Gore administration agreed to give in to North Korea's extortionate demands by paying \$60 million, claiming this had "no link" to missiles. When North Korea was asked to reveal a suspected underground nuclear site in the mountains of Kumchang-ri—one of many sites that is required to be open to inspection under the terms of its 1992 denuclearization agreement with South Korea—North Korea once again demanded, and received from the Clinton-Gore administration, "compensation" from American taxpayers for fulfilling an existing legal obligation.

Kim Jong II's callous disregard for American—and world—opinion, and his regime's apparent disdain for the Clinton-Gore administration's policy of nurturing ties with the failing Communist state, do not stop there. North Korea notoriously engages in counterfeiting U.S. currency, and sells illegal drugs as a matter of national policy. Kim Jong II is apparently not shamed by the capture of his diplomats and agents who have been caught red-handed in these criminal activities.

The Clinton-Gore administration, in its sad adherence to this dangerously failed policy of appearement-for-abuse, at least deserves credit for consistency. It has met every one of North Korea's violations of its international agreements with an apology and a rationalization. The purpose of Wednesday's meeting is to seek ways to end this craven policy, and to make protecting U.S. national security the goal once again.